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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Frederick "Freddie" Birth of East St. Louis, who passed away on June 1, 2009; and

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WHEREAS, Frederick "Freddie" Birth grew up in East St. Louis and confessed Christ at an early age; he was a graduate of Lincoln Senior High School; he obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and Elementary Education from A.M. & N. College (now, the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff); he participated in the Arkansas Band and Orchestra, and the famed AM & N Collegians Choir; and he was a member of Tau Sigma Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity; and

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WHEREAS, He earned his Master of Science degree and administrative certificate A and B from Southern Illinois University; and he attended Washington University, Wayne State University, and Ball State University for additional education; and

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WHEREAS, He served in the United States Army and was stationed in Europe for 19 months; he received chemical, biological, and radiological training and taught C.B. warfare courses while in the Army; and

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1           WHEREAS, He served as a sixth grade teacher at Franklin  
2 Elementary School, District 189; he was chairman of the science  
3 department and coached softball and basketball; in 1970 he was  
4 appointed Science Supervisor for District 189, and became  
5 Assistant Principal at Rock Junior High School; he was in  
6 charge of the 7th grade annex for 3 years; he served as McHenry  
7 Elementary School Principal for 15 years and received one of 17  
8 renewable Urban Education Grants from the Illinois State Board  
9 of Education; he retired after 38 years of dedicated service as  
10 the Director of the Innovative Science Program; and

11           WHEREAS, He was co-chairman of the East St. Louis United  
12 Negro College Fund; he was a board member and chairman of the  
13 personnel committee for the Madison, St. Clair, and Bond  
14 Counties Big Brothers and Big Sisters East St. Louis Mentor  
15 Program; he was on the Board of Directors of the Emily Willis  
16 Day Care Center; he was a member of Phi Delta Kappa National  
17 Association of Elementary School Principals; he was a member of  
18 the Illinois Principals Association; he was a member of the  
19 Congress on Racial Equality; he was President of the University  
20 of Arkansas, Pine Bluff Alumni Association (Illinois and  
21 Missouri); he was Director of the Men's Choir; he was Assistant  
22 Director of the Westbrooks-Green Community Choir and Chairman  
23 of the Board of Trustees; and

24           WHEREAS, He, along with 7 other dedicated fraternity

1 members, were the founders of the Nu Chi Chapter; he was a life  
2 member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, and held several offices,  
3 including serving as the 10th district representative; and

4 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his sisters, Remelle  
5 Turner and Irene Oliver; and

6 WHEREAS, Frederick "Freddie" Birth is survived by his wife,  
7 Carolyn; his daughters, Pamela, Paula, and Shontisa; his  
8 grandson, Xavier; his brother-in-law, Henry (Ruby) Parker; and  
9 his nephews, nieces, cousins, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity  
10 brothers; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL  
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with  
13 his family and friends, the passing of Frederick "Freddie"  
14 Birth; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
16 presented to the family of Frederick "Freddie" Birth as a  
17 symbol of our sincere sympathy.